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**A PARTY
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metroNEWS

Mark Lawes, founder and artistic director of the Theatre Junction Grand, celebrated the theatre's 25th anniversary and the launch of a new season by shutting down the alley between 1st and Centre Street for their eighth annual alley party. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Transit line gets overpass

SOUTHEAST BRT

Deerfoot Trail project, new trains among upgrades



**Brodie
Thomas**
Metro | Calgary

Federal and provincial funding announced Thursday will eventually have transit users in the southeast sailing over Deerfoot Trail.

Representatives from the federal and provincial governments were with city officials Tuesday announcing \$85 million for transit projects in Calgary.

Those projects include an expansion to the transitway on 17 Ave. SE, upgrades to LRT stations and money for new LRT cars.

Doug Morgan, director of Calgary Transit, said the expansion to the transitway will specifically be over the Deerfoot Trail. "It will be a connection for

buses as well as other pathway users like bikes and pedestrians, to be able to connect into 9 Avenue without waiting in those queues ... on 17 Avenue."

Some of the money will go to retire the older CTrain cars and purchase new Mask CTrain cars. Morgan said the exact number of cars remains to be determined but it will be fewer than 10.

The provincial Liberal party chided the NDP government for only putting forward one quarter of the funds instead of the usual 33 per cent.

"That's disappointing considering all the time spent by the NDP talking about infrastructure dollars and how important infrastructure is," said Liberal spokesperson Stephen Binder.

But provincial spokesman John Archer said the breakdown of 50 per cent federal, with the other half equally shared by the province and the city, is due to the more flexible rules.

"It was determined that given the circumstances we're in right now, the province could do 25 per cent."

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5

THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

As Calgary kids head back to school, Metro thought of overwhelmed parents who might need a refresher course on some of the things they should be looking out for in the coming months. Here are five things to remember this September for back to school.

Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary



METRO FILE

1 The bus

Last school year bussing and transportation caused many headaches for the Calgary Board of Education and parents alike. In order to alleviate some of these stresses and to ensure your child has a bus route, please make sure to fill out your child's CBE bus registration forms and hand them back as soon as possible. Bus fees are approximately \$335.



CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION

3 Kindergarten

The CBE recognizes that starting kindergarten is a totally new experience for parents and students alike. They have put together their very own five things list to help parents ease their kids into the new routine. Tips include reading to your child and encouraging literacy and numeracy with fun games, as well as helping them gain independence encouraging them to dress themselves and go to the bathroom alone.



NELSON MANDELA SCHOOL: LUCIE EDWARDSON/METRO

4 New schools

This September the CBE is opening eight new schools and two modernizations. There will also be an additional nine schools and one modernized Aboriginal Centre opening in the new year. Delayed opening are Buffalo Rubbing Stone School, which will now open Sept. 26, and Peter Loughheed School, which will have a delayed start by three days, opening Sept. 9. Students who are supposed to attend Buffalo Rubbing Stone will be temporarily relocated at either Alex Munro School or Panorama Hills School.

5 Playground zones

This one is for everybody — whether you have kids or not. Remember, there is no such thing as a school zone in Calgary anymore; all of them were transitioned to playground zones during the course of the last school year. All previous school zones are now playground zones and are in effect from 7:30 a.m. until 9 p.m. every day (even weekends) and are, as always, 30 km/h.



JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO



METRO FILE

2 Bill 10

Alberta Education spent the latter part of the 2015-16 school year working on LGBTQ guidelines and had asked all school boards to hand in their policies by March 31. Both CBE and the Calgary Catholic School District completed their policies and they will be active heading into school this year. Policies include the right for all students to form Gay Straight Alliances at their schools and to use the bathroom and change rooms of the gender they identify with.

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POLITICS

Notley 'bemused' over beating joke

Premier Rachel Notley says she was celebrating her 19th wedding anniversary when she heard the Opposition leader was joking about physically assaulting her.

"I was bemused," Notley said Thursday at the opening of a new school in Edmonton.

The premier said she has accepted Wildrose Leader Brian Jean's apology. But she urged Albertans to continue to hold all politicians to a high standard of civility so that "we not get en-

gaged in name-calling, and that we not engage in the kind of language that we saw demonstrated earlier this week."

There are more pressing issues that should be addressed, such as the impact of low oil prices on Alberta's economy, she said.

Jean has not spoken publicly about the comment made at a town-hall meeting in Fort McMurray on Tuesday night. He told the audience he would continue to beat the drum on key issues

but joked that the law prevented him from beating Notley.

"I made an inappropriate attempt at humour that I promptly apologized for," Jean said in a statement issued Wednesday by the Wildrose party. "Jokes of this nature are never acceptable, and I hold myself to a higher standard."

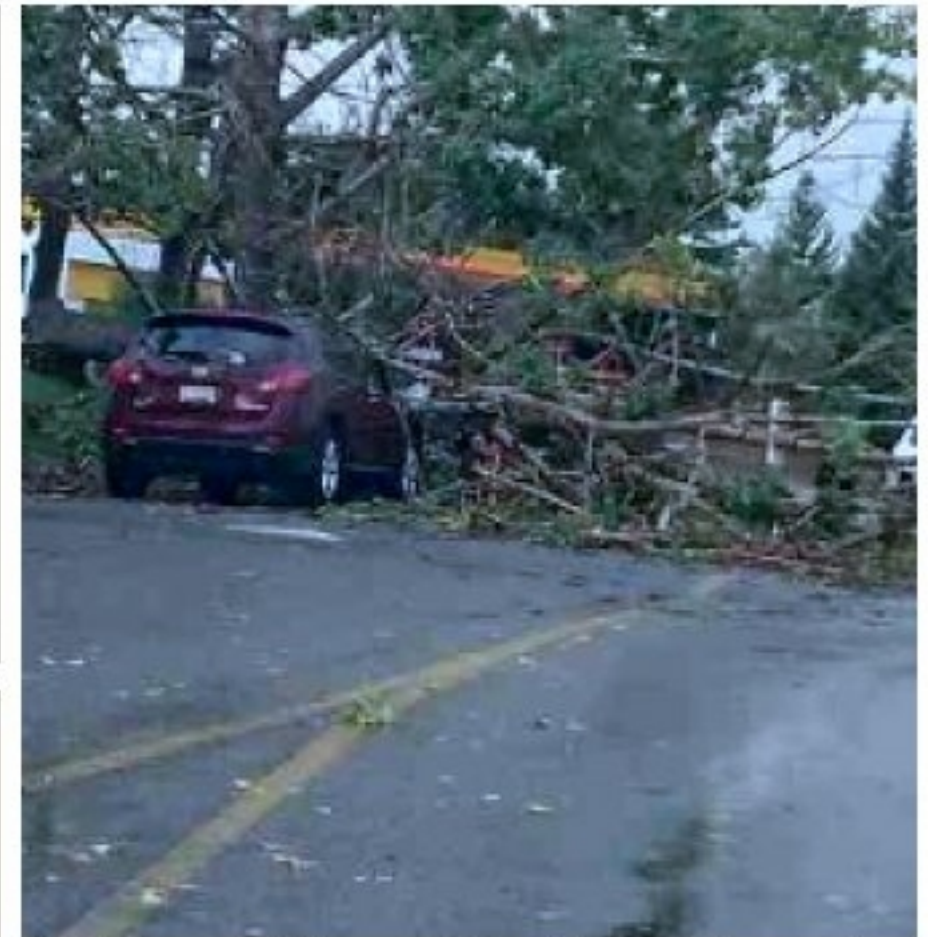
Politicians on both sides of the aisle in the legislature, along with Olympic rugby star Jen Kish and those who work with do-

mestic violence victims, have condemned the remarks.

She agreed that, as the attacks continue, it's important to put a spotlight on them.

"I think that the debate around it is probably improving the overall level of debate as we go forward," she said. "And I think it's important for people to understand that you can always choose to engage respectfully and to focus on the issues."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



This SUV sustained damage to its hood and roof when a mature tree fell on it Wednesday evening. COURTESY RYAN BUTTERWORTH

City trees are falling

PROPERTY

Land owners responsible for maintenance, say officials



We're not sure if a tree falling in the forest makes a sound, but when a tree falls in the city, it's kind of hard to miss.

Ryan Butterworth witnessed a close call between a tree and a SUV Wednesday evening as a rainstorm moved through the southwest.

The tree fell on a section of road near the Southcentre Mall, just off Macleod Trail.

He said he might have been the one hit if he hadn't pulled into a gas station.

"As I jumped out of the vehicle I turned and looked, and I saw this tree coming down," he said. "It landed on that vehicle you see in the picture."

Butterworth said he's a for-

mer volunteer firefighter so he immediately ran over to the SUV to make sure the people inside were OK.

The tree had landed on the vehicle's hood and roof. Butterworth described the two men inside as looking shell-shocked, but they were otherwise unharmed.

"I told them they should get out because the other tree looked shady as well."

City of Calgary spokeswoman Anna Blaxley said the tree was on private property and was cleaned up by a private contractor. However, she said in the case of this happening with a public tree, the city does have a claims department that handles liability issues.

When it comes to trees on private property, the city is not keeping tabs on their health, since it has 750,000 of its own trees to monitor.

"Private tree owners are responsible for the trees on their land. If someone spots a neighbour with a tree of concern, the first step is to talk to the neighbour."

She said if that doesn't resolve the situation, citizens should call 311, or 911 if it's an immediate emergency.







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CRIME

Man to appeal convictions in shooting of ex-girlfriend

Relatives say a Calgary man will appeal his conviction by a jury for shooting his ex-girlfriend and a man during what U.S. prosecutors say was a jealous rage. Michael

Ilk, 41, was sentenced this week in Montana for two counts of attempted deliberate homicide and two counts of aggravated assault for the April 2015 shooting of Tyler Wilson and Hadassah Pereslete. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Police take action over 2015 internal survey

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Leadership and workload blamed for low morale



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

The Calgary Police Service (CPS) said they're very cognizant of concerns expressed by their members in the 2015 Calgary Police Commission (CPC) internal employee survey, and they've taken steps towards improvement.

On Wednesday, Metro reported on a survey conducted into member satisfaction showing that roughly half (49 per cent) of respondents disagreed that morale at CPS was 'good', an increase of 12 per cent over a similar 2014 survey.

Supt. Nina Vaughn talked to Metro Thursday about the survey results and said they've addressed the results by initially finding out what drove the declines in many of the force's satisfaction rankings.

"First thing we did was present all of these results to our senior leaders and talk about ways to improve engagement and help them understand what that means so they knew where



An internal survey shows half of Calgary police members disagree that morale is good on the force. METRO FILE

the areas of concern were for our employees," she said.

Vaughn said before they were able to begin working on improving morale they had to dig into the underlying causes.

"Some of the things indicated as impacting morale were leadership and workload," she said.

One of the ways Vaughn said CPS responded to these factors was beefing up front-line staff-

ing.

Vaughn noted the addition of 48 officers to the frontline to help reduce workload as well as the redeployment 43 bodies back to the frontline from other positions.

The superintendent said they've also instituted a new policy around tenure and how much time an officer has to work on the front lines before they can specialize.

Officers must now work on the front lines for five years before transfer to a specialty area and there's a tenure policy that rotates people through specialty areas more frequently so that officers on the front line can have greater access to opportunities.

"We're bringing the expertise from those areas back to the street," Vaughn said.

"These initiatives are helping CPS stabilize issues brought

up by front-line officers, keep bodies on the street and keep the work volume manageable."

In addition, Vaughn said they're working at addressing leadership concerns as the survey showed that 50 per cent of respondents disagreed that actions and directions of senior leaders indicated that CPS cared about employees — an increase of 10 per cent over 2014 numbers.

CONTEXT

Metro clarifies police survey numbers reported

In Thursday's story on the Calgary Police Service survey numbers, Metro reported that 58 per cent of respondents reported being overworked and dealing with heavy workloads. It should have read: 58 per cent of respondents provided a negative remark, up from 42 per cent in 2014, and included being overworked, understaffed and dealing with stress, among other factors. Seventy-four per cent registered positive comments about working for CPS, down from 80 per cent in 2014.

Additionally, 23 per cent strongly agreed they were satisfied with available training and 64 per cent agreed to some extent — down from 67 per cent in 2014. Fourteen per cent strongly agreed they were satisfied with communication within CPS, with 54 per cent overall agreeing to some extent. Forty-six per cent disagreed — up six per cent from 2014.

Further, Metro reported that only 12 per cent of respondents agreed morale was good. It should have read: 12 per cent of respondents strongly agreed — down to its lowest level in seven years, while overall roughly 50 per cent agreed to some extent morale was good. Forty-nine per cent disagreed that morale was good, up 12 per cent from 2014.

Metro regrets any confusion in not providing this context in the Aug. 31 piece.

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Supt. Nina Vaughn

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"A large body of research has documented that in our society, physical appearance has a large impact on how individuals are perceived by others. Individuals perceived to be attractive receive preferential treatment in education, employment, medical care, legal proceedings, and romantic encounters that often result in their being happier, more successful, more socially adept, and more sexually fulfilled than others.

Studies have shown that individuals who are above average in attractiveness earn more money than those with an average appearance, and individuals with below average looks are penalized with the lowest hourly wages. Furthermore, physical appearance is intrinsically linked to body image, self-esteem, and confidence, and an attractive appearance promotes psychological wellbeing."

Excerpt from Social Implications of Hyperfunctional Facial Lines

- J Charles Finn, MD
- Sue Ellen Cox, MD
- Melissa L Earl, MPH

Societal changes of this day and age are putting pressures on men and women in the workforce as well, a phenomenon heightened by today's economic state. Working later in life means competing for jobs with younger applicants.

Unfortunately, along with the wisdom, experience and accomplishments that come with getting older, there are changes that occur in our outward appearance. These changes can make us appear tired, anxious, or angry, and affect the way we are perceived. Does it not make sense for each of us, regardless of how genetics has differentiated us, to do what we can to take care of our skin and stave off the physical effects of aging on our appearance?

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Seven areas marked for improvement

MAIN STREETS INITIATIVE

Store owner skeptical of city's plans



Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

Just over a year after launching its Main Streets Initiative, the city is developing a clearer picture of how it will develop its major shopping districts.

The project was launched to enhance growth and use of the city's main commercial corridors.

Kevin Barton, project leader, said after starting out looking at 33 separate sections of the city, they've narrowed it down to seven that will receive special attention.

Picking those areas meant looking at the comments from the 2,200 Calgarians collected over eight months worth of workshops, and working with consultants on where growth is predicted.

"Council agreed it was a good idea to focus on a few key areas," said Barton.

The city now will be going



Both 17th Avenue S.W. and 37th Street S.W. could see improvements under the city's Main Streets Initiative. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

back to those areas for more consultations with citizens and business owners.

Barton said they'll be looking for ideas on ways to enable and promote redevelopment, change and growth in those areas.

He said input from main streets is helping with the city's redesign of the streetscape in

Inglewood that could begin as early as next year.

"We're looking at how to redesign sidewalks, streetways — the building-to-building part of 9th Avenue — to make it better for businesses, better for local residents and also efficiencies around transit and parking."

Not everyone is keen to see

the city making changes to their area. Ben Falconer owns Phoenix Comics on 17th Avenue S.W., west of Crowchild Trail — one of the areas targeted for improvement.

As someone running a retail business, he's worried that the changes could lead to an area heavy in restaurants and bars,

which is what he sees further east on 17th Avenue S.W.

"They've freed up so many liquor licences down there it's forced out a lot of the other small businesses," said Falconer.

He said restaurants make higher margins, and smaller mom-and-pop retail shops can't compete.

He feels his business is doing fine and doesn't need any assistance from the city.

Barton said the legwork done on the other 26 main streets will be kept on the shelf and revisited as projects and funding align. So other main streets will get attention as time goes on.

+ TARGETS

Main streets getting attention:

- 1st Avenue N.E.
- 17th Avenue S.W. from 37th Street to Crowchild
- 37th Street S.W. from Bow Trail to 26th Avenue S.W.
- 17th Avenue S.E. from 26th Street to 60th Street
- 36th Street N.E. from Memorial Drive to 16th Avenue
- Bowness Road from 16th Avenue to 48th Street
- 16th Avenue N.E. from Home Road to Bowness

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Distortion defends booking band

CONTROVERSY

Debate needs to be more respectful, manager says



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

The general manager of Dis-

tortion is defending her decision to book the controversial band Black Pussy at the venue — but indicated the dialogue surrounding the show is becoming increasingly hostile.

The band was originally scheduled to perform at the Palomino until outcry from members of the public and the Femme Wave festival caused owners to pull the band. A week later Distortion booked them.

In the interim, some Calgarians found the band's name to be racist and misogynist and vocalized their opinions online.

As Metro reported, several of these women were bullied and harassed online, to the point where fans of the band were threatening and tell them to go off and die.

"People are getting upset," said Distortion manager Katie Bevan. "It's not just one group

bashing another group. I think everyone is feeling emotional about the subject and they're voicing their concerns in the wrong way, which are being interpreted as being mean and hurtful.

"It should be done respectfully, intelligently — let's have a debate on the subject."

She said the band was booked because she believes they're a talented group of musicians.

"They play rock and roll, we host rock and roll," she said.

She said the bar has no place for politics or religion.

"I didn't book the show to take a stance on free speech or take a stance on feminism or racism or anything like that."

Artist Nikki Valentine, who will be performing on the same bill as Black Pussy, said it's good that the band is generating discussion online and that the band members are

good people.

"I can tell you these guys are not racist, they're not sexist," she said. "They stay at my house when they're in town. They cook, they clean, they make the beds, do their laundry — they're just good boys and they like to make music."

Valentine, who is half black, said the name does not offend her — and host Taylor McNallie said, as a black woman, she's not offended either.



The Calgary Police Arson Unit is looking for a person on a bike near the location of a fire this week. COURTESY CALGARY POLICE SERVICE

CRIME

Suspect sought in possible arson

Calgary police are looking for a person they believe could have information about a suspected arson that took place in the early hours of Tuesday in the community of Mount Pleasant.

According to CPS the Calgary Fire Department was called to a residential fire around just after 3 a.m. on Aug. 30 in the 400 block of 30th Avenue N.W.

"Firefighters arrived to find a two-storey house, that was still under construction, fully engulfed in flames," said CPS. "No one was injured in the fire, but the house was a total loss."

The CPS arson unit and fire investigators now believe the

fire was started intentionally.

Investigators have found CCTV footage from a business near the house that shows a person dressed in dark clothing and riding a bicycle in the area when the fire started. The person later returned to the burning house and was last seen travelling north along 4th Street N.W.

The CPS said the fire was reported to 911 about half an hour after the video was taken.

Police are asking for the public's help to identify this person of interest as it is believed they may have information about the fire. METRO

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Cheryl Applegarth

Take notice that on the **12th day of September 2016 at 9:30 a.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 1505, 601 - 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a hearing will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: **Custody Order; Permanent Guardianship Order** of your child born on **August 19, 2016**. If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you **MUST** appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director.

You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes.

You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Jackie Ellice; Leanne Baines; Daniella Eggink

Calgary Region, Child and Family Services

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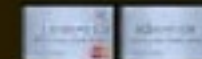
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School gets gift of hundreds of books

DONATIONS

Orthodontics practice ran book drive all summer



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Just in time for their first week

back at school, students at Marlborough School in northeast Calgary will be receiving hundreds of gently used books thanks to a book-drive done by a local orthodontics office.

Over the summer months, Daher Orthodontics has been committed to sharing a smile through the gift of reading through their summer book drive.

The practice originally pledged to raise 500 books for

Marlborough School's library but was overwhelmed by the generosity of their loyal patients. In total, Daher Orthodontics raised 785 books for Marlborough School.

"We are committed to supporting our community's overall health" said Dr. Sam Daher. "Whether it is through reading, we work hard to bring smiles to the Calgary community each and every day. We hope this gift inspires a new generation of

readers and makes the children at Marlborough School smile."

Monda Harswinder-Bains, assistant principal at Marlborough school, said the gift means a lot to the students.

"It's a treasure, really, to be able to inspire our students to read more," she said. "Reading is one thing we focus on here. It is truly a gift that we can give to our young people to help them succeed and excel in school."



Dr. Mark Hamanishi and co-workers at Daher Orthodontics spent the summer months collecting books to gift to the children of Marlborough School. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

WANTED PERSON

Police seeking man who has 10 aliases

An Irish man, who police say goes by 10 different names, is being sought for information in a Calgary extortion case.

According to the Calgary Police Service, the man in question was let go from his job and has allegedly been harassing his former employer.

Police believe the man is originally from Cork, Ireland, and was primarily working in the oil and gas industry in northern Alberta. It's possible, police said, the man may be living at a Vancouver-area homeless shelter, but has previously lived in both Ottawa and Calgary. He was last seen in Vancouver in February of this year.

The man has no valid driv-



Police are looking for this man in connection with an alleged employer extortion case. COURTESY CALGARY POLICE SERVICE

er's licence and relies on others to get him around.

Anyone with information on his whereabouts is asked to call police at 403-266-1234. METRO

+ ALSO KNOWN AS ...

The man police are looking for is known to use a variety of aliases including:

- Patrick DOHERTY
- Sean GAELIC
- Diarmaid KELLEGHER
- Brad HAY
- Chantal GREEN
- Derry DINEEN
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Wedding March, then march in Pride

LGBTQ RIGHTS

Couple will tie knot then celebrate with community



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

It's that classic story: boy meets girl, boy marries girl, cultural attitudes shift, boy decides he doesn't want to hide his sexuality anymore, boy then meets boy, they fall in love and decide to get married.

This Saturday, the day before the Calgary Pride Parade, Max Aranguiz will marry Alan Peterson in the company of their children and grandchildren.

Aranguiz said they chose to hold the wedding during Pride as a way of showing the world that it's OK to get married — and then say thank you to those who paved the way for them to be able to marry.

"I was born in Chile, where homosexuality was a taboo," said Aranguiz.

Admitting he was gay could have gotten him killed, so he hid

who he was. When he arrived in North America, he married, had children and only came out in 2011. He lost friends, but had the support of his children.

Meanwhile, Peterson had been out since 1992. He moved to Kamloops, B.C. from the U.S. to work as a teacher. The two met online. They were both teachers, both had three daughters — and both owned a grey cat. They communicated online and by phone until deciding to meet in Banff. Two years later, they're getting married.

The couple said it feels like the timing is right. People are more accepting now of the LGBTQ than ever before.

"Last year around the Pride Parade, I had one student in class (yell) 'Mr. Max, Mr. Max!' Aranguiz recalled. "He wrote us a beautiful card, that we should have a good married life."

They'll be married by a minister from Knox United Church. Aranguiz will be given away by his oldest daughter and a friend, while Peterson will be given away by his two eldest daughters.

The next day, they'll march in the Pride parade to show the world that they belong, and that they're happy.



Max Aranguiz and Alan Peterson, in the company of their children and grandchildren, will marry on Saturday and march in Sunday's Pride parade. AARON CHATHA/METRO

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 IN BRIEF

Body found in an alley

Police are investigating the discovery of a body in southeast Calgary.

Police received a report of a body in the alley of the 2700 block of 41A Avenue S.E. They arrived to discover the body of a male victim. No other information is available at this time.

The death is being treated as suspicious and CPS. The homicide unit is investigating. METRO

Housing units set up for families in Fort McMurray

Residents who lost homes in the Fort McMurray wildfire can apply for longer-term housing while they wait for their homes to be rebuilt. The province is setting up 65 temporary housing units in the community.

Residents will be able to apply for accommodation at a demonstration house to be set up on Sept. 9 in Fort McMurray. THE CANADIAN PRESS

COMMUNITY

Rainbow crosswalk back in time for Pride

Thanks to an overwhelming crowdfunding response that doubled initial expectations, Calgary Pride will once again have a rainbow crosswalk painted in downtown Calgary.

The 2016 Calgary rainbow crosswalk was painted last night, beginning at 10:30 p.m. by a host of volunteers, including a 14-year-old girl named Milan, who is a member of the LGBTQ community.

and also battling a rare form of cancer.

The crosswalk can be enjoyed by all Calgarians at the corner of Stephen Avenue and Centre Street.

The campaign, which began 22 days ago, has raised \$8,295 for the painting of the crosswalk, more than doubling the \$4,000 goal the organizers initially set out.

METRO



Mark Lawes, founder and artistic director of Theatre Junction.
JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Stage meets street party

CULTURE

Theatre holds its eighth annual event



Jennifer Friesen
For Metro

In the early 1990s, the Theatre Junction was just setting its roots down in the basement of the Jubilee Auditorium.

Mark Lawes, founder and artistic director, recently found a 1992 newspaper clipping he found with the headline, "New company off to a 'very impressive' start."

"You see that — 'very impressive,'" he chuckled.

"I really just wanted to create a company where local actors and directors could work professionally in Calgary."

A quarter of a century later, the theatre celebrated their 25th anniversary and 2016/2017 season with their eighth annual alley party on Thursday evening.

Co-presented with The Hifi Club, the party shut down the alley between 1st and Centre Street to make way for San Francisco DJ, B.Bravo, art installations and local musicians.

The theatre moved to the old Grand theatre in 1st Street in 2004, taking the name Theatre Junction Grand. Built in 1912, Lawes recalls it was set to be razed to construct a parking lot.

Thanks to donations and a dedicated few, "we could make it into Calgary's culture house for contemporary art," said Lawes.

The alley party began eight years ago as a way to celebrate a new season but has grown to attract hundreds.

"The whole idea is building that junction," said Lawes.

"Bringing people together from different walks of life, different perspectives and different places in the world."

"And us opening the doors to the street really helps create that idea of shared space – because the street is the original public space."

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR PERMANENT GUARDIANSHIP ORDER TO:

Levi Wells

Take notice that on the **12th day of September 2016 at 9:30 a.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 1505, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a hearing will take place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act will make an application for: **Custody Order; Permanent Guardianship Order** of your child born on **August 19, 2016**. If you wish to speak to this matter in court, you **MUST** appear in court on this date. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. If you do not attend in person or by a lawyer, an Order may be made in your absence and the Judge may make a different Order than the one being applied for by the Director.

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X marks the tough spot for scheduler

SCENE YYC

Man in middle of making fest tick is ready for hectic weekend



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

With a stacked lineup that includes the Lumineers, Twenty One Pilots, Halsey and Vance Joy, scheduling artists for Calgary's XFest might sound like one of the most exciting jobs in the business.

Well, good news — it absolutely is! Festival producer Nhaelan McMillan said the festival has now grown large enough that booking agents are already at his door offering artists for 2017.

"It didn't start out like that, but now that we're so many years in, the festivals (XFest and Edmonton's Sonic Boom) are part of the circuit," said

ON THE WEB

XFest is on at Fort Calgary this weekend. For more, visit xfestcalgary.com.

McMillan.

He also tries to meet all the artists coming through personally. McMillan had trouble picking a favourite, but one of the most rewarding moments programming was bringing his nephew to meet Tenacious D.

"He's a big movie buff, and he got to meet Jack Black," McMillan recalled. "That was one of my favourite moments, not because of who he was, but because those two sat there and talked movies for 20 minutes. He was a genuinely nice person and watching that interaction was amazing."

If there's a real difficulty McMillan has, it's that there's just too much music out there. He said he always spends part of his day looking for new music, and it's often on Sirius Radio

or Youtube.

"I keep a list of all the acts I'm considering, be it baby bands or middle level or breaking acts, like the Arkells or July Talks of the world that are moving to that next level," he said. Sometimes it's taking a gamble — McMillan remembers booking Weezer on a gut feeling, at a time where the band hadn't played in eight years and their album hadn't been released yet.

The album turned out to be a hit and the performance was a massive success.

At the end of the day, convincing the bands to play isn't so tough anymore — the biggest hurdle is trying to convince audiences to put their faith in the show after XFest rained out and was cancelled last year.

"Weather is weather, we're Canadian, we endure anyway, but last year we had no choice — the stage was literally underwater," he said, adding this year they've raised the stage to mitigate any risks.



Festival Producer Nhaelan McMillan said he's excited to see the Twenty One Pilots play this year. COURTESY XFEST

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Weekend, September 2-5, 2016 | 19



Incontrol aims to straddle the ideas of consequence and what influences a person. COURTESY KURTIS DAVID HARDER

Who's really in control?

SCENE YYC

Director tells of how his new thriller throws up the answers



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

A year ago Kurtis David Harder was taking his script for the thriller *Incontrol* to the filming stage. Now, the Calgary filmmaker is premiering his science fiction thriller at the Calgary International Film festival. Metro caught up with him to shoot the breeze about his latest work.

What's the movie about?

It follows a group of university students that discover this device that allows them to go into the mind of others and see what it's like from someone else's perspective — but also shows what kind of controls we have as people on a day-to-day basis. Whether it be media or other outside influences. What makes a person who they are.

The film plays into that fun where you can be someone else and play without consequence, but obviously that ends up

turning into a bit of a turmoil.

Why film in Calgary?

(Producer Chris Ball) and I are both from here. We started off working on crew. Chris started doing props on movies like *Revenant* and *Interstellar*, and those were both shot here.

We were working in between Vancouver and Calgary and were planning to shoot the movie in Vancouver, but with the community here and our roots, Alberta just pulled us back. The film industry really cares about indies here.

How has the production changed since you began shooting last year?

Building a film is kind of a never-ending process of discovering the story as you go along. From writing, you lay out your groundwork. But when filming, a lot of that changes during the day with what the actors bring to the table.

When you move it to the edit, you have all this footage you have to piece together from the original script, but through that you're also in your third state of writing. You're discovering ways to tell the story and little nuances through the edit.

You discover more in each stage.

WEEKEND EVENTS

FRIDAY – Snap!

Queer artist Lisa Heinrichs has her work exhibited at Lost 112, along with video shorts and a web series from the Fairy Tales Film Festival and an interactive photo booth from the Miscellaneous Youth Network. The event takes place at Loft 112. It's part of the Calgary Pride 2016 festivities, more of which are listed at calgarypride.ca.

SATURDAY – Highland Games

Whether you're Scottish or just interested in Scottish culture, the annual Highland Games invite everyone to come out for a full day of dancing, piping, lifting and tartan. Athletes compete in the open stone, sheaf and caber events. Dancing includes the Highland Fling, Sword Dance and Scottish Lilt. For more, visit calgaryhighlandgames.org.

SATURDAY – UpDog Challenge

Dog owners get to bond with their pets in events like the 4WayPlay, Freestyle, 7Up and the 3 Day Marathon. UpDog events aim to increase the number of dog owners participating in disc and dog spots – participants are awarded regardless of their finishing position in the games. For more information, visit updogchallenge.com.

SUNDAY – Chinatown Street Festival

The annual cultural event takes place in September instead of August, but still includes lion dances, merchants, food tents and activities for the kids. The event will be held at the Impark lot on the corner of 2nd Street and Riverfront, behind the Chinese Cultural Centre. For more, visit calgarychinesemerchants.org. AARON CHATHA/METRO

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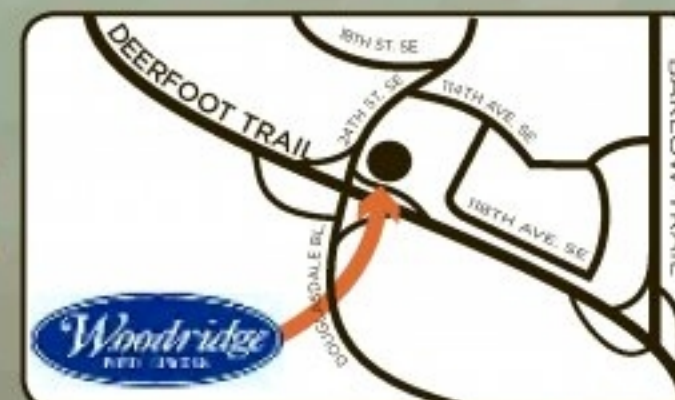
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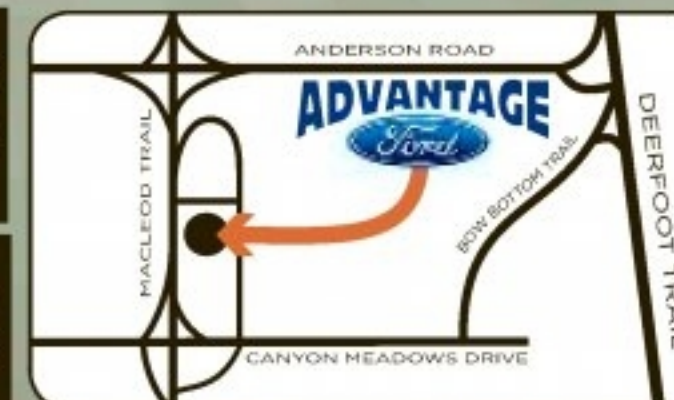


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The boy who changed the direction of a nation

SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

Alan's death had profound impact on many Canadians' lives

A year ago, Tima Kurdi was just a suburban mother, a hardworking immigrant in British Columbia who had knocked on many doors in a helpless effort to bring over her siblings and their families from war-torn Syria.

On Sept. 2, 2015, the Port Coquitlam woman's life was forever changed because of the drowning deaths of her nephews, Alan, 3, and Ghalib, 5, and their mother in the Aegean Sea while fleeing to Greece.

Kurdi was thrust into the spotlight, becoming a spokeswoman for millions of Syrian refugees to people in Canada and around the world shaken by the image of tiny Alan lying facedown and lifeless on a Turkish beach.

The plea she and other Syrian Canadians had been making for years to politicians was finally heard. Just weeks later, the new Liberal government swiftly opened Canada's door to thousands of Syrian refugees.

"I would never have imagined that after that image of Alan, something would happen for the better," reflected Kurdi.

"It was very hard and emotional for me with the reality we live it, that it took a tragedy until somebody would take action," added Kurdi, who until then had been unsuccessful in bringing her brothers to Canada.

But Kurdi and her family weren't the only people whose lives were changed by little Alan's death: Syrian refugee families have been given the opportunity that Alan didn't have to build a new life in Canada. Members of Muslim and Arab communities who have felt disenfranchised in Canada have a renewed sense of belonging. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Alan, left, and his brother Ghalib Kurdi. Alan, 3, Ghalib, 5, and their mother drowned in the Aegean Sea while fleeing to Greece on Sept. 2, 2015. CONTRIBUTED



Gynecologist Vanig Garabedian and his wife, also a doctor, left Aleppo for Lebanon in 2014, after their clinic was bombed.

The family was among those who got off the first flight arriving at Pearson airport, personally received by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. "It gives our dignity and respect back," he said.



When **Asim Bhatti, Sarfaraz Haq and Nazim Tejani** decided to form a refugee sponsorship group last September, the trio was only planning to bring in a family of six from Homs. In the end, the group sponsored 17 people.

"Seeing Alan Kurdi's photo was a major catalyst to get us going," said Haq.



Nasim Misrabi was volunteering in Turkey monitoring refugee boats trying to cross to Greece when news of Alan's death emerged.

"People started posting photos of dead refugees on social media, because they saw the international media's response to Alan," said Misrabi, who was sponsored by the Canadian government.



Maher Azem, who came from Syria in 2005, said the Arab and Muslim community has become more engaged. The Toronto man helped found the Syrian Canadian Foundation to help sponsorship groups and settlement agencies serve the arriving refugees.

"The community has moved from advocating for refugees to aiding them," said Azem.



Shadi Al Qablawi lived in constant fear in the three and a half years his family stayed in refuge in Jordan.

"When we first saw Alan Kurdi's photo, we had zero expectations from the world," said Al Qablawi, now living with his family in Mississauga, Ont. "It's so sad about that little boy, but his death has saved so many."

CHINA

PM talks human rights

Justin Trudeau set his sights squarely on China's human rights record Thursday, painting Canada as a straight-talking champion of personal freedoms as he lectured an elite business crowd on the value of good governance and free expression.

The prime minister's direct remarks came during week-long official visit to China aimed at forging deeper commercial and cultural bonds. Building closer economic ties will make it easier for China and Canada to speak frankly about governance, human rights and the rule of law, Trudeau told several hundred people at an event hosted by the Canada China Business Council.

"The success of the world is inexorably linked to China's success," he said. "I know that these are not easy conversations to have, but they are necessary."

Trudeau went so far as to broach the subject of gender: "There's an opportunity here tonight — gentlemen, it's 2016. We need more women at this head table." THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Decline in buying power predicted for child program

Canadian families will see their payments slowly erode over time under the Liberal government's new child benefit program, says Parliament's budget watchdog.

In a report released today, the parliamentary budget officer says the benefit doesn't automatically adjust to account for inflation, which means the number of families who qualify will also decline in the long run. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Hispanic leaders 'confused'

U.S. ELECTION

Trump speech saddens many who advised the nominee

"Crushed." "Disappointed." "Confused."

Some Hispanic leaders who have been advising Donald Trump say they feel betrayed after his long-awaited immigration speech that definitively ruled out a pathway to legal status for people living in the country illegally.

Trump stopped short of calling for the mass deportation



Republican nominee Donald Trump THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

of millions of people who have not committed crimes beyond their immigration offences. But he also ruled out what he dismissed as "amnesty," saying those who want to live

legally in the U.S. will need to leave and head to the back of the line.

"There's several of us who have gone out on a limb, if you will, to try to at least be at the

table of reason with him, and that's left us confused and disappointed," said Tony Suarez, the executive vice-president of the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference. He's been among those pushing Trump to moderate his stance.

As recently as Monday, he said, the GOP presidential nominee had signalled on a conference call with faith leaders that they could expect to see a gentler, more compassionate Trump in the speech. Trump, Suarez said, was asked explicitly whether they would see a softening or any "hope" for at least some of the people currently living in the shadows.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED KINGDOM

Royal audacity: Did Kate get catcalled?

The Duchess of Cambridge, Kate Middleton, appeared to catch the attention of a group of construction workers on Thursday as she toured Cornwall with her husband.

In photos of the interaction, she appears to laugh at what's being said, while Prince William looks less than impressed. Before jumping to conclusions, the exchange seems to be a lot more innocent than the photos make it look. And no, William isn't reopening the Tower of London. It appears that Sam Wayne, the construction worker in the foreground, just wanted a selfie with the



Prince William and Duchess Catherine on Thursday. CHRIS JACKSON/GETTY IMAGES

royal couple.

British tabloids are having a field day with the apparent catcalls, calling the construction workers "cheeky" and praising the royal couple for taking it all in jest. METRO

ADVERTISING FEATURE

HOW TO GET RID OF KNEE PAIN ONCE AND FOR ALL... WITHOUT DRUGS, SHOTS, OR SURGERY

Now, in Calgary, AB, one doctor is helping local residents with knee pain live more active, pain-free lives

Living with knee pain can feel like a crippling experience.

Let's face it, your knees aren't as young as you used to be, and playing with the kids or grandkids isn't any easier either. Maybe your knee pain keeps you from walking short distances or playing golf like you used to.

Nothing's worse than feeling great mentally, but physically feeling held back from life because your knee hurts and the pain just won't go away!

My name is Dr. Jack Kucheran, owner of Northside Wellness Centre. Since we opened 33 years ago, I've seen hundreds of people with knee problems leave the office pain free.

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New research in a treatment called low level laser therapy, or cold laser, is having a profound effect on patients suffering with knee pain. Unlike the cutting type of laser seen

in movies and used in medical procedures, the cold laser penetrates the surface of the skin with no heating effect or damage.

Cold laser therapy has been tested for 40 years, had over 2000 papers published on it, and been shown to aid in damaged tissue regeneration, decrease inflammation, relieve pain and boost the immune system. This means that there is a good chance cold laser therapy could be your knee pain solution, allowing you to live a more active lifestyle.

Professional athletes like Lance Armstrong and team members of the New England Patriots rely upon cold laser therapy to treat their sports-related injuries. These guys use the cold laser for one reason only...

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Before the FDA would clear the cold laser for human use, they wanted to see proof that it worked. This led to two landmark studies:

The first study showed that patients who had cold laser therapy had 53% better improvement than those who had a placebo. The second study showed patients who used the laser therapy had less pain and more range of motion days after treatment. If the cold laser can help these patients, it can help you too.

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- An in-depth consultation about your problem where I will listen... really listen... to the details of your case.
- A complete neuromuscular examination.
- A full set of specialized x-rays to determine if arthritis is contributing to your pain.
- A thorough analysis of your exam and x-ray findings so we can start mapping out your plan to being pain free.
- You'll see everything first hand and find out if this amazing treatment will be your pain solution, like it has been for so many other patients.

Until June 30th, 2016 you can get everything I've listed here for only \$49. The normal value for this type of evaluation including x-rays is \$250, so you're saving a considerable amount by taking me up on this offer. Remember what it was like before you had knee problems... when you were pain free and could enjoy everything life had to offer. It can be that way again. Don't neglect your problem any longer - don't wait until it's too late.

Here's what to do now:

Due to the expected demand for this special offer, I urge you to call our office at once. The phone number is 403 291-0603.

Call today and we can get started with your consultation, exam and x-rays as soon as there's an opening in the schedule. Our office is called Northside Wellness Centre and you can find us near the Peter Lougheed Hospital just across the street from Value Village. Tell



A new treatment is helping patients with knee pain live a happier, more active lifestyle.

the receptionist you'd like to come in for the Knee Evaluation before June 30th.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jack Kucheran, D.C.
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P.S. Now you might be wondering...

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Bombardier said it would cut production of the Global 5000 and 6000 jets from 80 to about 50 per year. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bombardier to suspend business jet production

MANUFACTURING

Move due to sluggishness in market, says spokesman

Bombardier is juggling challenges on two new fronts in Canada, temporarily suspending business jet production and falling behind in its delivery of a light rail transit prototype for Toronto's Eglinton Crosstown transit line.

The aerospace and railway manufacturer says it plans to place workers at its Global jet completion centre in Montreal on furlough for an unspecified amount of time next year.

"It's a minor adjustment

to our completion activities that will be deployed in 2017," spokesman Mark Masluch said Thursday.

He said the change — which follows last year's move to cut production of the Global 5000 and 6000 models from 80 to about 50 per year — will better manage costs and address ongoing sluggishness in the business jet market.

A company source who spoke on condition of anonymity said Bombardier is seeking to suspend production for 20 days in addition to the usual two-week shutdown during summer.

Bombardier has also been taking action involving its Challenger and Learjets.

It notified employees last week that Montreal production

of the Challenger 350 and 650 jets would be suspended this fall for four weeks, according to Dave Chartrand, Quebec representative of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

Masluch declined to confirm details about the Challenger suspension. But he said it stems from the decision announced in February to cut 7,000 jobs around the world over two

years. Bombardier also handed out pink slips last week to employees because of its "workplace optimization" plan.

Meanwhile, Bombardier Transportation said it will deliver a light rail transit prototype in two to three weeks to Metrolinx, an agency of the Ontario government, for the Eglinton Crosstown transit line in Toronto after missing Wednesday's deadline to do so.

Bombardier has had troubles in the past delivering projects on time for Toronto's transit system. It was supposed to have delivered 70 new streetcars to the Toronto Transit Commission by early August but a spokeswoman for the TTC said last month that it was hoping for 31 by the end of the year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

“It's a minor adjustment to our completion activities.”
Mark Masluch

IN BRIEF

Puny carrots, recall stall Campbell freshness push

Campbell Soup's push to become a bigger player in the fresh foods market has been crimped by puny carrots and possibly spoiled protein drinks. A premature harvest led to smaller carrots, which drove away customers. Bolthouse drink results were hurt by a recall of 3.8 million bottles.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram introduces zoom

Instinctively pinching on an ex's Instagram photo to zoom in and accidentally liking it (oops!) will be less likely now that the app has finally graced users with a zoom feature.

Instagram announced the new functionality on Wednesday, allowing users to pinch-to-zoom in on photos and videos.

The inability to zoom was

one of the most complained about aspects of the app.

The company did not provide any explanation as to why this rather basic function was introduced five years later, but did say it's working on "improving core parts of Instagram."

"Over the past six months, you've seen many exciting changes come to Instagram, from a new icon to longer

videos and even a new way to share everyday moments with Instagram Stories," Instagram said in a statement posted on its account.

Users took to social media to rejoice at the game-changing feature.

The zoom function, currently available on iOS only, will be available on Android devices in the coming weeks.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

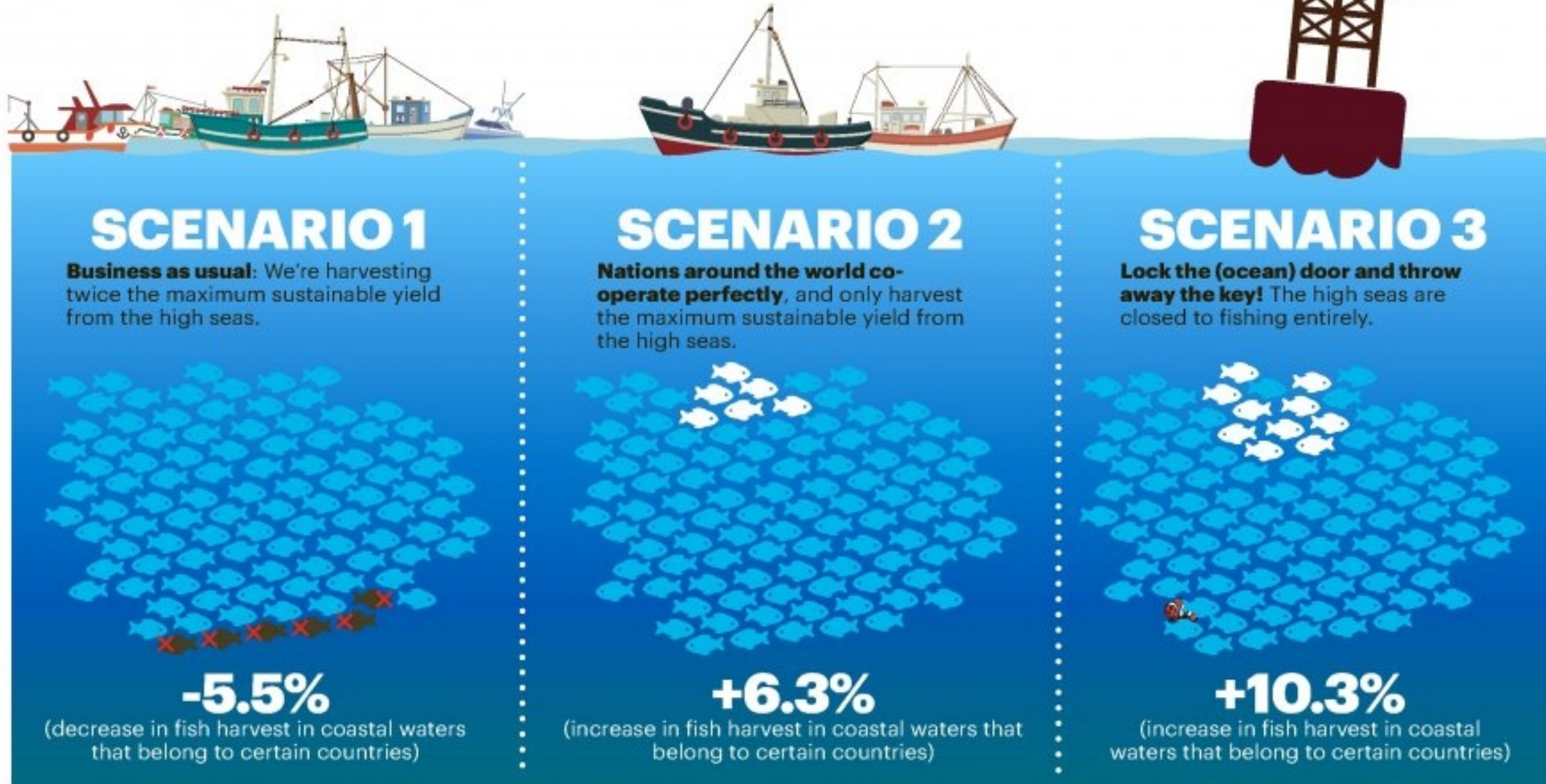
DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

HOW TO KEEP PLENTY OF FISH IN THE SEA

Climate change is warming up the oceans, and many fish can't handle the heat. They're fleeing from tropical waters for cooler climes to the north and south. It's affecting fish harvests, especially in poor countries where they're needed most. UBC environmental science professor William Cheung has proposed a bold thought experiment: **What if we just ... closed the ocean? Could we save the seas?**

Using some fancy math, Cheung and colleagues predicted the abundance of **30 far-roaming fish species by 2050**, assuming global temperatures will have increased by about 1.8 C over the 1985-2005 average by 2100. They looked at three ways we could manage the **high seas** — the international waters that take up 2/3 of the oceans. They measured how

those scenarios would affect the remaining 1/3 of the oceans: the **exclusive economic zones (EEZs)** particular countries have the right to use. They assume no more than the maximum number of fish that can be harvested without depletion — called the **maximum sustainable yield** — is taken from the EEZs themselves.



FINDINGS Your week in science



STUMP FLUFFY

A new study suggests you should be making your lazy indoor cat work for her supper. Food puzzles, which make cats 'hunt' more like their wild ancestors, seem to increase activity and reduce boredom, lowering risks of obesity and diabetes.

IN FOR A HARD NIGHT (OR MORNING)

When you're most alert and operating at your best — whether you're a night owl or an early bird — is the time you're most likely to "self-sabotage" (a.k.a. waste time when you know you should be doing something else), an Indiana University study says.

SOUND SMART



DEFINITION

Pluripotentiality is the ability of a cell to transform into other cells types. Embryonic stem cells can, for example, become nerve, skin, muscle, and more. Since 2006, scientists have been manipulating genes to create **pluripotentiality** in adult cells.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE

One day Isabel may be able to benefit from an experimental brain-cell-replacement therapy; using her own cells with induced **pluripotentiality**.

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CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

Can anybody predict an earthquake?

Scientists were once charged for failing to predict an earthquake. Can anybody predict that? — Dean, Toronto

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, no scientist has "ever predicted a major earthquake. They do not expect to know how in the foreseeable future." But "probabilities can be calculated for potential future earthquakes."

Despite this, after Italy's deadly 2009 quake, six scientists and one government official were convicted of involuntary man-

slaughter for failing to communicate the risks. It's not clear yet whether there will be a repeat of this blame game in light of the Aug. 24, 2016 quake.

The scientists were later cleared. They'd simply said the chance of a major quake had neither increased nor decreased after a recent cluster (called a "swarm") of tremors.

Here's the thing: In most cases (99 per cent, according to one seismologist), a swarm is not a warning knell for a major quake. However, big quakes are often

preceded by smaller "foreshocks" — though it may not be clear what's a foreshock and what's the real thing until after the fact.

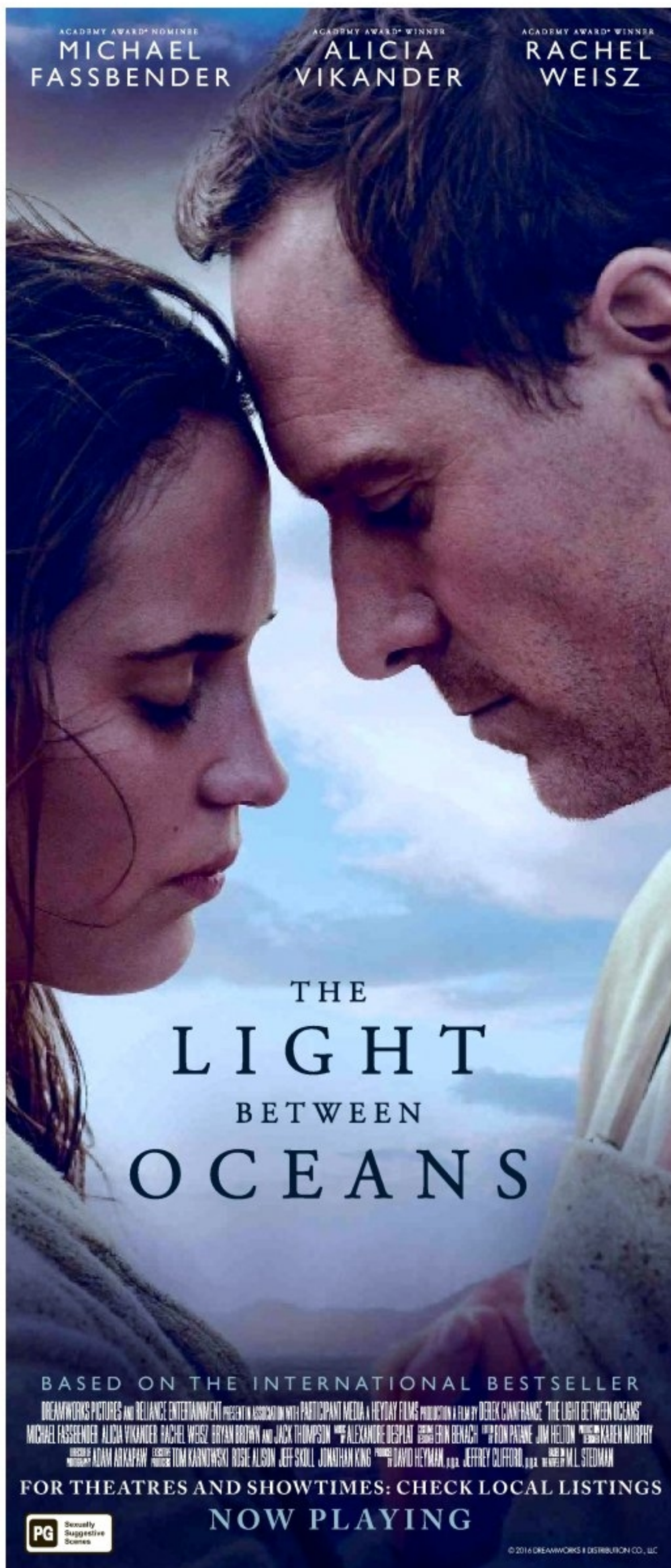
Chile, possibly the most earthquake-ready nation, has a network of sensors that detect tremors as they happen, so people can be evacuated if it's determined there's a risk of tsunami.

Early warning systems in the works — ones that can, for example, trigger trains to stop and power and gas lines to be disabled to minimize damage — are expected to provide a couple of

minutes of notice, at the very most. It's not like a weather forecast, and it probably never will be.

Here's the heart of it: Earthquakes, the release of pent-up potential energy inherent in the position of tectonic plates, are chaotic by nature. This brings to mind a favourite quotation of mine, from Irish comedian Dara Ó Briain: "Science knows it doesn't know everything; otherwise, it'd stop."

Science Question?
Tweet @genna_buck



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Crossing over

How M.L. Stedman's debut novel *The Light Between Oceans* made it to the big screen

Few debut novels have made as big a splash as M.L. Stedman's *The Light Between Oceans*. Set on a lonely island off the west coast of Australia, the 2012 book tells the tale of lighthouse keepers who find a lost baby and what happens when good people make bad decisions. It's a love story, mystery and tragedy rolled into a sweeping historical novel.

But the story of how the New York Times bestseller came into existence and how it made the transition from the page to the screen has almost as many twists as the book itself.

Originally from Western Australia, Stedman moved to London, England, to work as a lawyer. In 1997, she took up creative writing and had some success with her short stories. Then came *The Light Between Oceans*. The novel is about moral choices, though it is careful not to judge the actions of its characters. Tom Sherbourne is a First World War vet who seeks sanctuary as the keeper of a white stone lighthouse. On the mainland, he meets the spirited Isabel Graysmark, who searches for a modern idea of freedom with Tom on the island.

In an interview with *The Christian Science Monitor*, Stedman said the story and its characters emerged from her imagination: "I closed my eyes and could see a lighthouse and a woman... a man appeared, and I sensed

he was the light keeper, and it was his story. Then a boat washed up, carrying the body of a dead man. I kept looking and saw there was a baby in it too, so I had to keep writing to see who all these people were and what happened next."

What happened next was that the novel was a hit. It has been published in over 30 languages and praised for its deeply realized protagonists and its exploration of darkness and light. Stedman herself adds a layer of mystery, granting few interviews and offering little personal information.

In 2012, DreamWorks won the rights to the story, and Derek Cianfrance, director of *Blue Valentine* and *The Place Beyond the Pines*, was chosen to recreate Stedman's fictional world of Janus Rock. To capture the novel's conflicted characters, Cianfrance cast Michael Fassbender and Alicia Vikander in the roles of Tom and Isabel, and Rachel Weisz as a mysterious mainlander from the past.

Because the geography is so important to the story, the movie was filmed on location on the rugged west coast of Australia. "I wanted to be incredibly faithful to the book," says Cianfrance.

He says Stedman herself paid him the ultimate compliment when she told him that, in his making of the film, she felt understood. "She said, 'Isn't that the point of life, that we, as human beings, are trying to be understood by each other?'"

The Light Between Oceans is now playing in theatres across Canada.



Fall into film

After a bruising three months, it's about to get better at the multiplex. Here are six movies, performances and story lines moviegoers can look forward to this autumn. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1 Potter world roars back to life — This fall, J.K. Rowling's \$7.8-billion film franchise is back. It's a two-pronged attack. While *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* (pictured) is reaching back into the past of Rowling's Potter world, the two-part *West End play Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* (only co-written by Rowling) is going into the future. It moves the tale 19 years ahead of where the books left off.

2 Ang Lee, innovator — Ang Lee is continually pushing cinema to new technological heights, and his adaptation of Billy Lynn's *Long Halftime Walk* (Nov. 11) is no less ambitious. The first screening will be in 4K, 3D and 120 frames per second — essentially, hyper reality.

3 Lonergan-Mania — Little is settled about this fall's coming awards season except for this: Kenneth Lonergan's *Manchester by the Sea* (Nov. 18) is one of the best films of the year. Already celebrated at its Sundance premiere, Casey Affleck excels as a small-town New Englander haunted by tragedy.

4 A more diverse Oscars — After two straight years of "OscarsSoWhite" blanketing a dishearteningly homogenous Academy Awards, a richly diverse array of possible nominees is lining up for this season. A revamped Academy of Motion Pictures may be hard pressed to ignore the likes of *Hidden Figures* (Dec. 25).

5 A legitimately good Shia LaBeouf — Performance-art theatrics have overshadowed the transformation Shia LaBeouf has undergone. He's made it easy to not take him seriously in recent years, and maybe that's been the point. But in Andrea Arnold's Midwest teenage odyssey, *American Honey* (Sept. 30), LaBeouf and breakout star Sasha Lane (pictured) are exceptional.

6 Emma Stone gets a proper showcase — How do you come off of a dud like *Aloha*? By singing, dancing and romancing your way back into America's hearts in what could be a career-defining performance in Damien Chazelle's musical story *La La Land* (Dec. 16) of course.



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5 LEO DICAPRIO LOOKALIKES AROUND THE GLOBE

Leonardo DiCaprio is one of the most recognizable names in Hollywood. But the face that's become so memorable from a career spanning three decades and from such films as *Titanic*, *The Aviator* and *The Revenant* — for which he won a Best Actor Oscar — isn't particularly unique.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE; ALL PHOTOS: INSTAGRAM/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



1 Roman Burtsev, 33

Looking rather like an overfed version of the sleeker DiCaprio, a Russian IT expert Roman Burtsev has been using his resemblance to the actor to fatten his wallet, most recently in a television ad campaign for the tippie most favoured by his fellow Ruskies, Five Lakes Vodka. Burtsev is also taking acting lessons, is planning to go on a diet to shed some unwanted inches and is hoping to find true love in the near future.

Dane DeHaan, 30 2

American Dane DeHaan is the only doppelganger who's actually followed DiCaprio into acting and it's helped him launch a promising career in television and film. "I think we have very similar eyes. I really like DiCaprio, the younger work especially. I think that he played a lot of very varied, but fully-embodied characters, and I would hope that's true for my work too. I don't think it's just a physical thing ... I think we bring an intensity to the screen that is somewhat comparable," DeHaan said in a 2012 interview.



3 Konrad Annerud, 21

Swedish bartender Konrad Annerud says he's mistaken for the actor nearly every day, although he's 20 years younger, and gets plenty of selfie requests. The DiCaprio clone doesn't help matters since he mirrors the same hair and clothing style as the actor. "It can become a bit hard sometimes when people call me Leo instead of my name ... but it's fun to be like him. He's handsome," Annerud said in an interview.



4 Brad Ellison, 27

When U.S. archer Brad Ellison made his third appearance and won his second Silver Medal for archery at the recent Summer Olympics in Rio, fans couldn't help but notice his uncanny resemblance to the actor. DiCaprio has recently been sporting a beard, as does Ellison, which makes them look even more like twin brothers separated at birth.

5 Jordan Kale Barret, 19



First scouted at the tender age of 14 at a grocery store with his mother, Australian model Jordan Kale Barret has been compared to both DiCaprio and his late acting rival, River Phoenix. The 19-year-old is already a world traveller, having modeled for *Vogue* magazine and landing major shoots for such big-name fashion names as Versace, Balmain, Tommy Hilfiger and the Gap. He's even become tabloid fodder as the rumoured boytoy of hotel heiress Paris Hilton.

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Amy, we'd like you to meet our pal, Oscar

ACADEMY AWARDS

Five noms, no statues: Time for versatile actress to win

Shinan Govani
For Torstar News Service

Better to have been nominated and lost than to have never been nominated at all.

Or is it?

As Amy Adams — alliterative of name, fiery of mane — moseys into Toronto next week this is a question that might be asked. Starring in two, high-profile movies at the Toronto International Film Festival, and with the chatter of awards season commencing anew, it's as good a time as any to be reminded that the 42-year-old sweetheart is in quite the Oscar club: She's five for five, both for Oscar nods and Oscar robs.

Adams is more conspicuous than, say, Julianne Moore, who'd been nominated four times before she won her first statuette for *Still Alice*. But a solid 12 years passed between Moore's Academy Award win and her previous nomination, while Adams's five nominations came in the span of a decade.

"The nominations got Amy attention, and better work with more interesting directors, but it happening in such quick succession ... it's also kind of a bag of rocks on her back," an L.A.-based Oscar-watching veteran told me recently. That is to say, in Hollywood, stars such as Brie Larson and Alicia Vikander walked away with statuettes this year on their first go-round, while a dash of Susan Lucci (the soap opera star nominated for an Emmy 19 times before she won the award), clogs Adams' filmography.

The all-American actress paid her dues in straight-to-video marvels like *Cruel Intentions 2* and got a break in 2002 when she was cast as the candy stripper in Steven Spielberg's *Catch Me If You Can*. That was followed by another drought before the Oscar train began to chug in 2006, with a career-launching part in *Junebug*. Armed with indie cred and an Oscar nomination she walked down that crimson carpet again in 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2014 for *Doubt*, *The Master*, *The Fighter* and *American*



Amy Adams stars in Tom Ford's *Nocturnal Animals*, a screwy character sketch, and Denis Villeneuve's *Arrival*, which some people are already calling the sci-fi thriller of the year.

DAVID M. BENETT/DAVE BENETT/WIREIMAGE

Hustle, respectively.

No sooner had Leonardo DiCaprio fulfilled his own destiny with a Best Actor win this past February than the Oscar-curse talk shifted to the woman who's been a high school gymnast, a Gap greeter and an A-grade cartoon Disney princess, and who has shared movie cred-

Oscar-land often favours ingenues (remember when Juliette Binoche squashed Lauren Bacall's forever-hopes of a statuette when the two faced off in the '90s?), and it becomes a harder climb for Ms. Enchanted to make to avoid being a permanent also-ran. She could go the route of Susan

car in 1994.

Adams's two films screening in Toronto offer a glimmer of hope. She stars in Tom Ford's *Nocturnal Animals*, a screwy character sketch, and Denis Villeneuve's *Arrival*, which some people are already calling the sci-fi thriller of the year.

If nothing else, the two projects demonstrate Adams's range; she has more range than most, but it's also prevented her from developing the kind of image that's critical in today's star-making apparatus.

"In her short career," wrote Nico Lang in *dailydot.com*, "there's almost nothing Amy Adams hasn't done ... but for being everywhere, she's seemingly nowhere."

Adams is famously "nowhere," too, when it comes to social media. Not on Twitter. Not on Instagram. Might this be why — in the hustle that constitutes Oscar campaigning these days — Adams hasn't been able to seal the deal? Or perhaps the sixth time's the charm.

There's almost nothing Amy Adams hasn't done ... but for being everywhere, she's seemingly nowhere.

Nico Lang in *dailydot.com*

its with Meryl Streep twice (in *Doubt* and *Julie & Julia*).

"Now that Leo got his Oscar, can we finally move on to the injustice that is Amy Adams being nominated five times without winning, how?" tweeted @NathanWarnock, one voice in the rising chorus. Comparisons inevitably were also made to Kate Winslet, who went zero-for-five herself until she struck gold for *The Reader*.

Sarandon, who won at 49, with her fifth nomination) or take the more treacherous path of Glenn Close (six nominations, zero wins).

There's also the Old Hollywood model of Deborah Kerr, who stacked up six noms (including for classics like *From Here to Eternity* and *The King and I*), but only got her standing ovation when she was awarded an Honorary Os-

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In the psychological thriller *The 9th Life of Louis Drax*, Aaron Paul plays the father of a boy in a coma.

TAYLOR JEWELL/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Off-kilter role falls in Paul's wheelhouse

SNEAK PREVIEW

Film started by Oscar-winning director before he died in 2008

Aaron Paul isn't a dad, yet, but he loves playing one — however flawed that dad might be.

"I love working with kids. I have lots of nieces and nephews. I can't wait to have children of my own," he said during a recent round of interviews for *The 9th Life of Louis Drax*.

Paul plays two parts — sort of — in *Louis Drax*, and one came with a monster suit.

"It was a huge process, a four-hour process," he said of his

transformation from ex-boxer, violent dad-with-a-drinking problem Peter Drax, to a dark, cave-dwelling thing.

"It was a big suit that I put on. A latex head. I kind of suppressed the memory. It was a nightmare of an experience. But I actually really enjoyed it."

The psychological thriller stars Jamie Dornan as a coma specialist tasked with taking care of a nine-year-old, seemingly accident-prone boy named Louis whom Dornan's Dr. Allan Pascal mind melds with. There's also some romance, on Dornan's part, with Louis' mom.

The story is right in Paul's off-kilter wheelhouse, à la his award-winning role as Jesse Pinkman in *Breaking Bad*. It's

+ DETAILS

The 9th Life of Louis Drax

Based on Liz Jensen's bestseller of the same name.

Stars Aaron Paul, Jamie Dornan, Aiden Longworth

In theatres Sept. 2

a more challenging stretch for Dornan, of *Fifty Shades* fame, despite being the son of a doctor who once had acting aspirations of his own.

"My dad is a doctor. My mother was a nurse. My stepmother is a doctor. My uncle's a doctor. It's funny, my dad tried to give me advice for pretty much every character I've played, except on this occasion when I was playing a medical professional," Dornan laughed.

Dornan, who has two young daughters, enjoyed working with a child actor as much as

Paul. Louis is played by Aiden Longworth, who was 10 during filming and is now nearly 12.

Yes, Louis is in a coma, though he has more to do than just lie still.

"Aiden, he's brilliant," Dornan said. "You know the famous thing, never work with kids and animals? One of the early scenes I did was with a hamster and a child, so there's two in one. He talks non-stop, so actually the coma aspect, for him, was very, very difficult."

The script was a labour of love for Max Minghella, whose famous father, Oscar-winning director and screenwriter Anthony Minghella, had been developing it before he died in 2008. Minghella said French director Alexander Aja, known for slasher horror and fantasy, was true to the page, though the two didn't always get along.

"We butted heads a lot. I ... but it was absolutely coming from a place of love and excitement," Minghella said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



My dad (a doctor) tried to give me advice for pretty much every character I've played, except on this occasion when I was playing a medical professional. Jamie Dornan

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This weekend Alicia Vikander stars opposite Michael Fassbender in *The Light Between Oceans*. CONTRIBUTED

Why the whole world is in love with Alicia Vikander

IN FOCUS

Actress has quickly become the 'it' girl of film

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



In *The Light Between Oceans*, Michael Fassbender plays a stoic World War I veteran who falls truly, madly and deeply in love with Isabel (Alicia Vikander).

It's not an uncommon tale these days. It seems all of Hollywood adores the 27-year-old Swedish actress.

The New York Times praises "the gamin bone structure, that sullen pout, those velvety fawn eyes," and producer Lionel Wigram declared, "She's a star. You can't take your eyes off her on screen or in person."

Her talent and versatility have made her so in demand it's hard to believe that in her late teens drama school twice rejected her. According to her those dismissals were a bless-

ing in disguise as they allowed her earlier access to "an industry that prizes youth in women."

This weekend she takes on the romance of *The Light Between Oceans* as a precocious woman who asks a man she has just met to marry her. Based on an acclaimed and bestselling book by M.L. Stedman, it's a story about choices, honour and true love that plays like a highbrow Nicolas Sparks story in period clothes. It also showcases Vikander's range. In the last two years she has played everything from the personification of artificial intelligence to the estranged daughter of Hitler's favourite rocket scientist.

After success in Swedish language film and television, Vikander made an impression in under-seen films like the lushly beautiful *Anna Karenina*

opposite Keira Knightley and *Testament of Youth*, a World War I era story of one woman's voyage into pacifism.

It was *Ex Machina*, however, that made her a star. She played an automaton named Ava created by tech wiz Nathan "The Mozart of Code" Bateman (Oscar Isaac). Programmer Caleb Smith (Domhnall Gleeson) is hired to evaluate if the robot's ability to show intelligent behaviour is equal to, or undifferentiated from, that of a human being. *Ex Machina* is presented as sci-fi, but it really is a human drama; a human drama where the main character has a fibre optic nervous system. Vikander is equal parts warmth and chilly precision as a robot who wants more than to be a machine.

Next Guy Ritchie cast her in *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* and if he had *Frankenstein'd*

an actress for the role of Gaby in the mould of 1960s starlets, he could not have topped Vikander as a picture-perfect representation of mid-century cool. She looks like she was born to wear the oversized sunglasses and Mary Quant frocks but she's more than just the romantic interest.

In *The Danish Girl*, Eddie Redmayne plays the title role, transgender pioneer Lili Elbe, and while he has the showier part, it is Vikander — as Elbe's ex-wife — who won a best supporting Oscar for holding the screen as the film's emotional core, a woman who valued her relationship regardless of the changes that came her way.

Most recently she starred opposite Matt Damon as CIA's cyber-ops head Heather Lee in *Jason Bourne* and soon we'll see her in the thriller *Submergence* with James McAvoy, Eva Green's *Euphoria* and in the period piece *Tulip Fever* with Christoph Waltz.

But perhaps the biggest indication of her industry clout is that she recently announced she'll be stepping in for Angelina Jolie as Lara Croft in the rebooted *Tomb Raider* series.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

The Light Between Oceans	★★
The 9th Life of Louis Drax	★★★

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Sophie Nelisse, right, will be at the Toronto International Film Festival next week to be recognized as one of four up-and-coming actors in the Rising Star program. CONTRIBUTED

Sophie Nelisse's Mean Dreams of Oscar

INTERVIEW

Montreal star already has an enviable list of great roles

Montreal actress Sophie Nelisse wasn't born with the urge to be-

come a star.

There were practical reasons that pushed the 16-year-old into her acting career, which recently took her to the Cannes Film Festival. Next week she'll be at the Toronto International Film Festival, where she'll be recognized as one of four up-and-coming actors chosen for the annual Rising Star program.

"My brother wanted to become an actor and I used to do gymnastics and I kind of just fell into it to get money to pay for the travel expenses," Nelisse says.

"Throughout the years I continued and I eventually stopped gymnastics because it was too demanding and I wanted to pursue acting. And so here I am. I'm trying to make it more of a career now.

"It's getting a bit more serious."

Indeed, Nelisse's career has soared since she made a splash as insightful student Alice in Philippe Falardeau's Oscar-nominated 2011 teacher-suicide drama *Monsieur Lazhar*.

"I have to say, it was the perfect way to start off a career in a way, because we were all kids, we were all young, we didn't feel like we were working," she says.

Nelisse's subsequent credits

have included *The Book Thief* with Geoffrey Rush and Emily Watson, *Pawn Sacrifice* with Tobey Maguire and Liev Schreiber, and *Mean Dreams*, which is at this year's Toronto film fest.

Mean Dreams stars Nelisse as a teen who flees from her abusive father with her boyfriend/ neighbour, played by Josh Wiggins. The duo steals a bag of drug money to fund their getaway.

Nathan Morlando directed the script by Kevin Coughlin and Ryan Grassby. They shot last fall near Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

"It was different for me because it was mostly scenes outside and I'm more of a city girl, so it was hard for me to always be out in the woods with spiders and stuff like that," Nelisse says, laughing. "But it was an amazing set. People were just so nice."

Nelisse felt even more out of her element when *Mean Dreams*

screened at the Cannes festival's Directors' Fortnight program in May and got two standing ovations.

"It was overwhelming," says Nelisse, who was born in Windsor, Ont. "It was people everywhere on the streets, it was the big red carpet, it's not what I'm used to. It was fun getting to see the team again and I think we just really worked so hard on this movie. To be the entire team together and walk those steps was overwhelming and we were so proud of ourselves. It's a wonderful feeling."

Morlando says he's been watching Nelisse for seven years and is excited for audiences and fellow filmmakers to see more of her work.

"I needed a woman who was very emotionally and psychologically mature, who could understand this very complex

character and play some very complex feelings and Sophie was just perfect for the part."

Nelisse says her character in the film is "not like the cute little perfect girl anymore" and "is very different than what I've played before."

She says she hopes to find more roles she feels passionate about. "Obviously I want to win an Oscar one day, it's obviously a goal or a dream of mine, but I'm not ever going to choose a script just for that," she says.

"I just really want to do my best and if people recognize my work, it's always a plus."

Other actors in this year's Rising Stars program include Jared Abrahamson, Grace Glowicki and Mylene Mackay. Alumni of the program include Sarah Gadon, Tatiana Maslany and Stephan James. TIFF runs Sept. 8 to 18.

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THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS

Sparks fly for Fassbender, Vikander on and off screen

Neither Michael Fassbender nor Alicia Vikander was especially keen on living at a remote New Zealand lighthouse for the duration of shooting Derek Cianfrance's 1920s period drama *The Light Between Oceans*.

Cianfrance, the director of the gritty independent films *Blue Valentine* and *The Place Beyond the Pines* is known for leading actors to immersive extremes. To play a married couple in *Blue Valentine*, Ryan Gosling and Michelle Williams lived in a Scranton, Penn., home together. Williams has said she often has to remind herself that she didn't actually marry Gosling.

For *The Light Between Oceans*, adapted from M.L. Stedman's 2012 bestseller about a lighthouse keeper after the First World War, Cianfrance wanted to keep his stars and small crew at their exotic location: Cape Campbell on the New Zealand coast, to double for the tale's Australian island. Fassbender and Vikander are both known for complete commitment to their roles, but neither is a method-acting nut.

"Run for the hills," Fassbender says was his initial reaction, humming the Iron Maiden song of the same name. "Initially I thought, 'Oh god, this is going to be hell: on this peninsula in the middle of the nowhere. It turned out to be a really unique experience, to be in such an extreme environment.'"

"They were, especially Fassbender, uncertain," says Cianfrance. "I'm like, 'Michael just give me a shot here.' I had to work really hard to convince my production to stay out there. He was like, 'OK, I'll give it one night.' Flash forward five and a half weeks later and he didn't want to leave, and neither did Alicia."

They had other reasons for wanting to stay. Since shooting *The Light Between Oceans*, which DreamWorks will release Friday, more than a year ago, Vikander and Fassbender have been a couple: one of the movies' most decorated if discreet pairings. Both the film and their romance are, in part, a product of the blurring of fiction and reality.

"We had a chemistry from the beginning, obviously, and sort of to the present," says Fassbender,



Alicia Vikander and Michael Fassbender in a scene from *The Light Between Oceans*.

DAVI RUSSO/DREAMWORKS II VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

chuckling. "I just found her to be extremely committed and brave and really fierce. She goes for it. She doesn't let the fear of falling on her face stop her from trying things out."

The two came into the film having only briefly met. This was before Vikander exploded across movie screens last year, in films like *Ex Machina* and *The Dan-*

Fassbender plays a former soldier craving isolation after the war. He and Vikander's character, who lives in the nearest village, fall in love, but their union is haunted by miscarriage and later, a shared deceit.

Cianfrance eschews saying "action" or "cut" and instead has the actors improvise their way into and out of a scene. He

"I just looked out and saw this huge lighthouse, which is pretty extraordinary," Vikander recalls. "And the film crew was up on the top, so I started to climb up to the top. And they had timed it so the second I came up there, the sun just popped up over the horizon. It was probably the most extraordinary sunrise I had ever seen. It's not me acting, really, in the film when I see it."

The elements, Fassbender says, also made a powerful impression on him, particularly the relentless wind. And the removal from cellphones and other day-to-day pressures turned out to be welcome in focusing on the film's tender and tragic story.

"I'm a big part of superhero franchises and sci-fi franchises but these are real people dealing with life, and what life throws at you and how you handle it and how lives veer off a path that you thought they were destined for," says Fassbender. "That struck a chord with me personally." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

We actually had a true experience on that island ... We were actually living there and the film witnesses the truth of our experience. Director Derek Cianfrance

ish Girl, for which she won an Oscar. A fan of Fassbender's for films like *Hunger* and *Fish Tank*, Vikander says she considered him "one of the best actors of his generation."

"It's something when you get to work with an actor who immediately vindicates your faith," says Vikander. "He pushed me and I dared to do the same back."

would rouse the cast and crew for first light, or bring them back for the evening sun. They slept in trailers near the lighthouse. For Vikander's first day of shooting, before she arrived on set, he had her picked up at 2 a.m. and driven to the lighthouse. She was asked to cover her eyes until she was to exit a woodshed for her first take.

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Kerry Washington is on a mission

TELEVISION

Scandal actress talks babies, purses and producing

Scandal creator Shonda Rhimes didn't know that star Kerry Washington had another baby on the way when a less-is-more plan was put in place for season six of the political thriller.

The ABC series will have just 16 episodes next season. And fans will have to wait until January to see how the show's many cliffhangers play out.

Rhimes "knows what the story is," Washington said recently. "She knows about how many episodes she needs left to get there. And that was her decision."

It was only a couple weeks after Rhimes' announcement about the new Scandal game plan that Washington told her boss that she and her husband, former NFL star and current film actor and producer, Nnamdi Asomugha, were expecting again.

They have a two-year-old daughter, Isabelle Amarachi Asomugha.

The Mum Mom

Washington, 39, smiles and jokingly denies she's carrying a second child. She pats her baby bump, laughs and says she'd merely eaten too much for lunch.

So, how is having a second child different from having the first? "Every day is different," she says. "And, for me, definitely these two pregnancies have been very different."

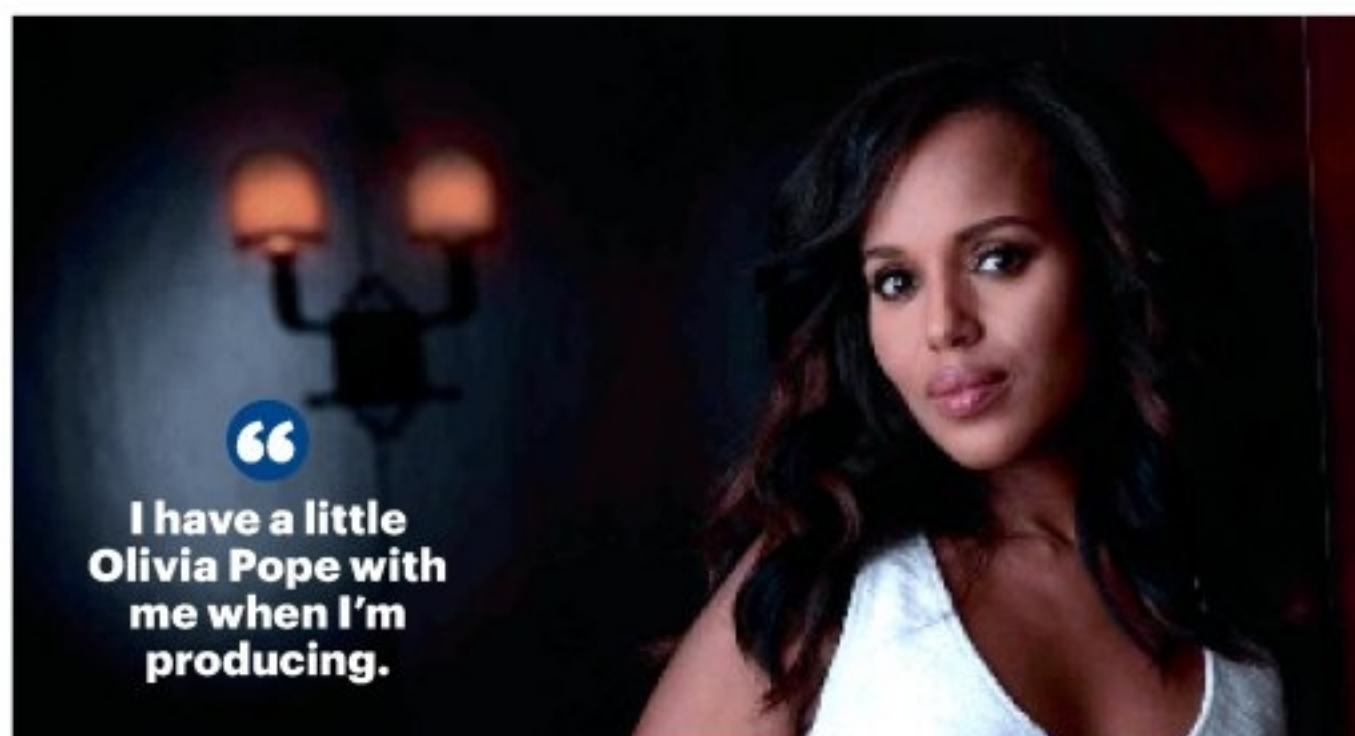
When asked how each pregnancy has been unique, she veers away from the subject. Washington is not one to talk publicly about personal life.

The Colour Purple

For the last three years, Washington has been an ambassador for the Allstate Foundation Purple Purse campaign, which raises money to benefit nearly 200 domestic-violence non-profits worldwide.

What's new for 2016 is that fashion industry heavy-hitters — including Tory Burch and Christian Louboutin — are joining Washington, with each designing limited-edition purple purses to be auctioned off for the cause.

The auctions are set to take place in October. They will be followed by a retail bag some-



Kerry Washington says she loves producing because she gets to be the problem solver.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

time this fall, and there will be a monthlong daily handbag giveaway to contributors to the Purple Purse Challenge. The 2015 campaign raised more than \$3 million.

Washington says purses also will be given to charities to use for their own fundraising. Purple is the colour for domestic-violence awareness. The purse represents freedom from financial

abuse, a tactic frequently used to trap victims in the relationships.

Washington recalls a recent encounter with an abuse victim. "A woman came up to me, in a room full of people (and said), 'I just want you to know, that when I left, I wore purple for an entire year,'" Washington says. "I knew what that meant and she knew what that meant. And it was the power of this metaphor:

That she didn't need to give me details about her black eyes. She didn't have to give me details about her destroyed credit, or her empty bank account, or the mode of transportation that was taken from her. She could just say to me, 'I wore purple.'"

Her Inner Olivia Pope
The Purple Purse campaign comes at a particularly busy time

for Washington. In July, she returned to work on Scandal, in which she plays Olivia Pope, a fictional fixer for Washington's elite. The actress also has been navigating Emmy season. She has two nominations for the TV movie Confirmation, which centres on the Supreme Court confirmation hearing of Clarence Thomas (played by Wendell Pierce) and allegations he sexually harassed one of his employees, Anita Hill (played by Washington).

Washington is nominated for her performance, as well as for serving as one of the movie's executive producers.

"I think the thing that most surprised me about producing is that it kind of brings out my own inner Olivia Pope, ironically," Washington says. "I love producing because it allows me to play other characters in other worlds in other situations. But that part of me, that part of Kerry that likes to be a fixer and a helper and solve problems, is really able to play. I'm not exactly wearing a white suit or a white hat or carrying Prada. I usually have on sneakers and jeans and a baseball cap. But I still have a little Olivia Pope with me when I'm producing." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Transgender singer aims to be a 'pillar' for youth

INTERVIEW

Jade Mya hopes talking about her past will help others

When Jade Mya was 11 or 12, she remembers a morning when her stepfather stopped her before school because he thought her outfit — a baggy white sweater dress slung over black tights — was too provocative.

The issue wasn't that the modest ensemble was revealing, but instead that Mya had grown up identifying as a boy.

"He got really upset," Mya recalls. "I still remember that day, him sitting me down, being like: 'You can't dress like that. You can't go to school like that.' He was freaking out."

"I remember talking back and saying, 'I'll go to school like this if I want to. This is comfortable. I like this. I'm different.'"

Perhaps that conversation looms large for Mya because it set so many things in motion; first, the concerned parents who "you could always hear talking at night," then 18 months of weekly therapy, followed by consultation after consultation with doctors. Finally, she began to transition at 15 years old. Doctors told her she was the youngest person in Canada ever to do so.

Or perhaps she remembers that conversation so clearly now, at age 25, because it was an early instance of Mya retaining the resolve to be herself.

Now a country singer whose seven-song debut *Heartbreak Country* came out in August and a fitness model with 140,000 Instagram followers, Mya hadn't spoken publicly about being transgender.

But as she stomps closer toward a hard-fought career breakthrough, she wants fans to know who she is.

"I want to take control of the story," she explains. "Some people thought I might have been lying because I didn't bring it up in the first few words any time they met me; because I didn't label myself as a certain way. And I don't think people should label themselves. We're all humans."

"But I'm proud of the person I am. So I want to come out and if people can see me as a pillar of hope or a pillar of anything, I'll be grateful."

And when it comes to pillars, by the way, Mya has always had her family.

She grew up in Luskville, a



Canadian country singer Jade Mya has decided to speak out about being transgender.

ANDREW LAHODYNSKY / TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"I've been getting the punches for, gosh, so long. Now they feel like little taps. They feel like gifts sometimes. 'Oh, somebody wrote what?' I'm a strong person. I'm like a brick wall. You can't push me down. Jade Mya

small western Quebec town "past Gatineau, past the mountains, past the cows and past the farms." In town and at home, country music was a mainstay, and Mya essentially inherited her fondness for the classic likes of Johnny Cash and Dolly Parton.

"If country music wasn't playing," she recalls, "someone was sick."

Mya's mom immigrated to Quebec from Lebanon when she was pregnant, so Mya never knew her father. But her close-knit family seems the tough stuff of country tunes. Though her mom and siblings worried about Mya undergoing aspects of the transition at a young age, their support didn't waver.

Her sister, 31 and Mya's "best friend," invited Mya to live with her and her husband for a period of time, while Mya never forgot "how many fights my brother got into at school for me."

"I have a really good family," she says.

Along the way, music was an outlet. A blend of covers and

originals, *Heartbreak Country* is rooted in the retro country she adores. The most personal tune might be *Loving Him Is Killing You*, a tune she co-wrote about the tumultuous end of her "first real relationship" two years ago.

"We were talking about an engagement and buying a house together. That destroyed me, that one; that absolutely killed me," she says. "He wasn't strong enough to talk about the media talking about him."

"I was just madly in love with him," she adds. "We lived together. It was tough. But honestly, I came out strong and I wrote a great song that's on the record."

Although Mya figures most of her fans don't know she's transgender, she has already faced discrimination on social media that she knows could amplify. "If you want to die, Google yourself."

She's actually smiling when she says it and, in fact, derives some amusement from the chatter (she was tickled by the accusation that she removed a rib; she didn't). If Mya

had a thin skin, she notes, hers "would be the wrong industry to be in."

"Oh, I've been ready," she smiles. "I've been getting the punches for, gosh, so long. Now they feel like little taps. They feel like gifts sometimes. 'Oh, somebody wrote what?'"

"I'm a strong person. I'm like a brick wall. You can't push me down."

Several songs from her debut are borrowed from the country soap *Nashville*, a show that doubles as an "addiction" for Mya. She was moved by a storyline revolving around a rising country star who came out as gay before being dropped by his label.

"I sort of relate to him," Mya says. "He just came out and was afraid of losing his fan base, which is still a fear in the back of my mind: people not being OK with it."

"But honestly, I'm still OK with it. I love being the person I am. I'm proud to be this person. I want people to see it's OK to be the person you are."

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Kitsilano Beach has long been a local favourite, as it provides a family-friendly setting to soak in the sun while enjoying pictur- esque views of the ocean and the mountains. Locally known as Kits Beach, it's on the north edge of the Kitsilano neighbourhood facing the Burrard Inlet. Expect lots of people when it's warmer.



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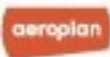
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San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick says he has been wearing socks depicting police officers as pigs in protest of "rogue cops"

Lining up a repeat



Jeff Maggert surveys a green during the final round of last year's Shaw Charity Classic at the Canyon Meadows Golf & Country Club. STEVE DYKES/GETTY IMAGES

SHAW CHARITY CLASSIC

Maggert defends 2015 title against impressive field

Jeff Maggert will try to jumpstart his PGA Champions Tour season with his second straight Shaw Charity Classic title, but he knows history is not on his side.

Maggert won last year's Shaw Classic event at the Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club after shooting a 6-under 64 in the final round to beat runner-up Colin Montgomerie by four strokes. With an impressive field gunning for the title this year, Maggert knows he has his work cut out for him.

"Everyone thinks just because

you're the defending champion, it's just going to come in and be an easy week," said Maggert, who hasn't won a tournament this year after reeling off four victories last season. "If you look at the history of golf tournaments, rarely does the defending champion repeat. Obviously sometimes they do. If I can do that this week, that would be awesome, because I'm looking to kind of jumpstart the rest of the year for me."

In order to win back-to-back titles, Maggert will have to fend off challenges from his first-

round playing partners Montgomerie and Rocco Mediate, who won the inaugural Shaw Charity Classic in 2013 before finishing in a tie for 19th the following year.

“

I just didn't get a lot going that week, but I'm here to change that this week.

Bernhard Langer, who finished in a tie for 27th two years ago

"It's just a great golf course. It's different this year. It's a little leaner and the wind's a little up and it's going to be not great weather. I think it'll be fun to

play when it's hard. I don't mind hard either."

Whatever the conditions, Maggert is also up for the challenge.

"I've played in just about every condition you can imagine," said Maggert, who noted that the forecasted cold and rainy conditions could result in higher scores on the par-70, 7,086-yard course. "I think the weather forecast will change the character of the course a lot and the way it played the last couple years I was here."

"I don't think the temperatures are going to be too crazy. The morning might be a little chilly. If it's kind of a heavy, steady rain all day, that could create some troubles. If it's just kind of passing showers, it's not that big of a deal."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

LPGA

Choi stands up to wind in Ontario

South Korea's Chella Choi was the only one ready for the wind.

Choi shot a 6-under 66 on Thursday to take a one-stroke lead after the first round of the LPGA Manulife Classic. Gusts of wind made long drives difficult for most of the field, but Choi had been focused on improving her drives in the days leading up to the event, coincidentally giving her a powerful stroke off the tee that could force the ball to the green.

"I worked really hard the last three weeks," said Choi

after completing her round at Whistle Bear Golf Club in Cambridge, Ont. "I want to hit straight and strong on my drive all four days, so I focused on just my driving for four days strong."

American Britanny Lang, Spain's Azahara Munoz, Sweden's Dani Holmqvist and In Gee Chun of South Korea are all at 5-under.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CANCON
Hamilton's Alena Sharp and Maude-Aimee Leblanc of Sherbrooke, Que., were the low Canadians at 3-under 69 on the day.



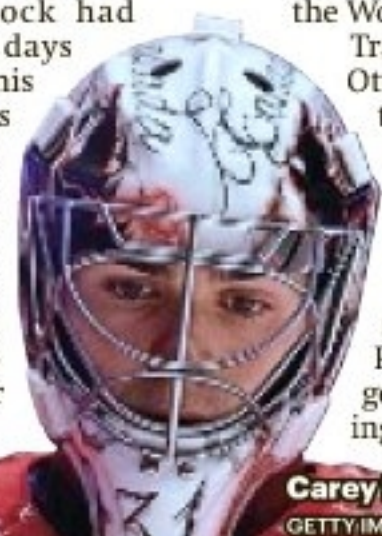
BLUE JAYS MARITIME FARM HITS ONE OUT OF THE PARK

The folks at the Hunter Brothers Farm of New Brunswick have cut Jose Bautista's iconic bat flip into a corn maze. "It's one of the most iconic images associated with the Blue Jays," said Leigh Hunter of the farming family. Along with Bautista's bat-flipping image is a gargantuan "40," to mark the team's 40th anniversary this season. HUNTER BROTHERS FARM/FACEBOOK

HOCKEY

Determining Price's status for World Cup

Mike Babcock had just three days to prepare his team for its first game at the 2014 Sochi Olympics. Team Canada's head coach won't be so pressed for time ahead of



Carey Price
GETTY IMAGES FILE

the World Cup of Hockey. Training camp begins in Ottawa on Monday with the tournament starting almost two weeks later in Toronto on Sept. 17. That leaves plenty of opportunity for Babcock and his staff to evaluate starting goalie Carey Price, possibly the biggest question mark heading into camp.

While the 29-year-old is said to

be at full strength following a knee injury that caused him to miss most of last season, it's not known how sharp he'll be after nearly 10 months without game action. How quickly can he regain top form? And how long can Babcock and the Canadians wait to make that determination in a two-week tournament?

"Certainly, we understand he hasn't played in a competitive game for a long time," Canada general manager Doug Armstrong said. "But a lot of guys obviously, if you missed

the playoffs or didn't go to the (world championships), you've been off four or five months, too. He's going to get in there in training camp and face lots of shots. We'll get him in some game action as soon as possible and just try and get him up and running before Game 1."

"I think that after the exhibition games he'll be ready to go."

Canada also must ensure that its alternatives, Corey Crawford and Braden Holtby, are ready to go in the event that Price isn't at his best. THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. OPEN

Murray chases down win under new roof

Wimbledon champ Andy Murray advanced to the third round at the U.S. Open with another straight-sets victory.

The second-seeded Murray beat Marcel Granollers 6-4, 6-1, 6-4 on Thursday under the roof at Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York with play suspended on the outer courts. The heavy rain outside made quite a clatter on the new roof, and Murray said in his on-court interview that it was tough at first because it was hard to hear the ball.

Murray jumped to a quick



Andy Murray
GETTY IMAGES

But Murray earned another break to finally clinch the set after 67 minutes, then cruised through the final two in 75 minutes combined.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

5-2 lead in the first set, then it took about 23 minutes to get through the last two games as Granollers saved six set points and got back on serve.

RECIPE Ham and Cheese Muffins



PHOTO: MAYA VISNIVE

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

These muffins are a portable, filling and yummy snack. Happy trails!

Cook time: 25 minutes
Makes one dozen muffins

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup ham, chopped
- 1 cup cheddar, grated
- 1/2 cup green onions, finely sliced
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 4 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp salt
- a few good grinds of black pepper
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 2 eggs

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 375 de-

grees. Prepare muffin tins or line with paper muffin cups.

2. In a large bowl, mix together the flour, whole wheat flour, salt and pepper and baking powder. Add the ham, cheese and green onions and toss until they are covered in the flour mixture and distributed evenly throughout it.

3. In another bowl, whisk together the milk, oil, yogurt and the eggs. Pour the wet mixture over the dry and stir until everything is completely combined — but don't over mix or your muffins will be tough.

3. Spoon the batter evenly into the muffin tins or muffin papers. Place your trays in the hot oven and bake for 20 to 25 minutes, until they are golden brown and a toothpick inserted into a muffin comes out clean.

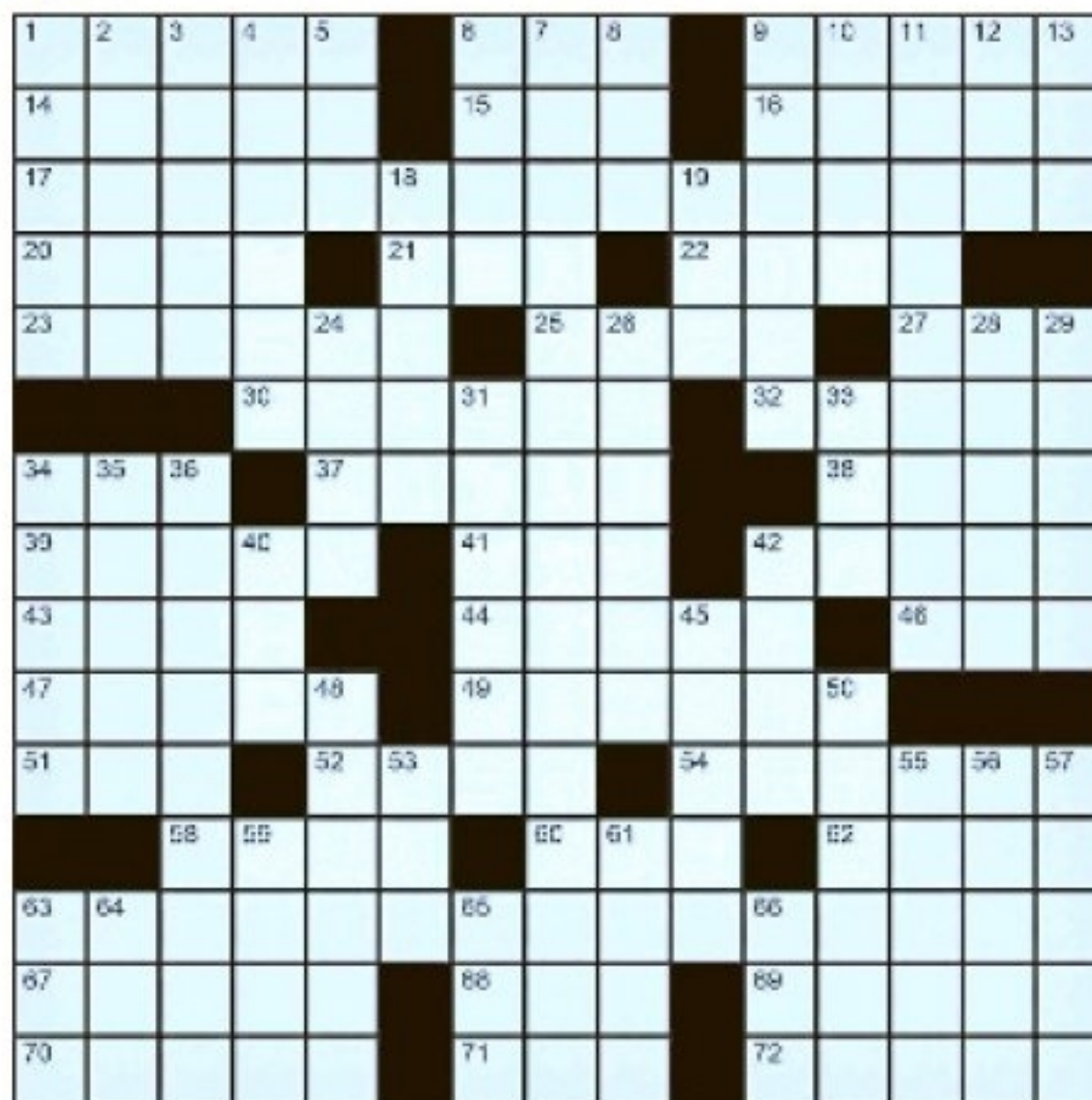
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Wonky
6. 'Meteor' suffix
9. Radiohead hit
14. Use a kitchen faucet's pullout wand
15. Texter's word of gratitude
16. Bisect
17. Bit of 1962 Brian Hyland hit Sealed with a Kiss: "...let us make a pledge to _ _ _ _"
20. Decorative curved arch
21. Kanga creator's monogram
22. About: 2 wds.
23. Yield
25. Adhere
27. "Huh...?"
30. Can't Buy _ _ _ by The Beatles
32. Guardians in ancient Rome
34. Stuff in Spam
37. Gelatin mould dish
38. "You _ say?!"
39. _ diamonds
41. Lemon _
42. Earth's _ layer
43. Mr. Danson's
44. Bride's new family member
46. Damage
47. Turf gripper on a specialty shoe
49. MP = _ of Parliament
51. "In _ Shoes" (2005) starring Cameron Diaz
52. Rat- _ _ _
54. More courageous
58. Head of hair
60. UN public well-being agcy.



62. Mouse-like field animal
63. What many a renovator on HGTV Canada has done to achieve the open concept look: 3 wds.
67. Eccentric
68. Work unit
69. Mystery writer Dame

- Christie, informally
70. Lay to rest
71. South Park brother
72. Bakery necessity

DOWN

1. Knight's protection, States-style

2. Under _ (1992) starring Steven Seagal
3. Display penitence in a way
4. Admiration
5. Dynasty of China
6. " _ _ miracle!"
7. Canadian premium TV channel: 3 wds.
8. _ _ date (Food

- label info)
9. Supermodel Ms. Tieg
10. Aries animals
11. Enough space to move around: 2 wds.
12. Adam's garden beloved
13. For every

18. MLBers in Washington, briefly
19. Ocean tester
24. Shipshape
26. Keep your cool: 2 wds.
28. Mehndi need
29. Autumn bloomer
31. Mid-size sedan by Kia
33. Woodworking tool
34. Starsky & _
35. Quaintly bless with oil
36. Canadian reality TV star Dean
40. God Bless the _ _ _ by Lee Greenwood
42. Indebted person
45. Monks' superior
48. Crude oil ship
50. Utterly destroy
53. S'-spelled out follower
55. Russian river
56. Emily Bronte's literary pseudonym, _ Bell
57. Adjust, as an alarm clock
59. Land unit
61. Massive
63. Garden pond fish
64. Called-one's occupation
65. Vox _
66. Direction

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Things are so much better at work today — huge difference! Work-related travel is likely. If you do travel, you will enjoy it.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is a wonderful, upbeat, playful day! Accept all invitations to party. Enjoy playful times with children. Movies, sports events and the arts will delight.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Family discussions will be warm and friendly today. This is an excellent day to discuss home repairs or ways to expand your home.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Today you experience the power of positive thinking. Your sense of optimism is strong, and you like what you see in the future. Yay!

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is an excellent day for business and commerce. Trust your moneymaking ideas, because they could lead to increased profits now and in the future.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You easily see the big picture today, which also makes you more tolerant of other people and their ideas. It will please you to learn something new about practically anything.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you can kick back and relax today, you will enjoy it. It will be fun to dream up big ideas and make plans for the future. It's a great day to dream big.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Group activities and time spent with friends will be a plus for you today. Accept invitations to interact with others whether through classes, sports or conferences.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Discussions with bosses and parents will be positive today, because people are in a generous, easygoing mood. Someone will listen to you; this person might even help you.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
This is a great day to sign up for a course or make plans to get further education or training in an area that interests you.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is an excellent day to decide how to divide something or deal with an inheritance, because people will be fair and generous.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Relations with close friends and partners are upbeat today. In fact, it's a good day to discuss business and commercial activity, because you will be quick to see advantages and opportunities.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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DEPEND ABSOLUTELY ON GOD

It is risky to depend on man rather than God as human beings are limited in all endeavours of life. Hence, human beings may fail but God remains infallible. Even the bible says, "Give us help from trouble: for vain is the help of man. Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies." (Psalm 60: 11 & 12 KJV). Put your trust in God because He can never disappoint you.

For prayers and counseling call the pastor at 587-579-0454

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